

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 08841 121853Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
TRSE-00 /066 W
-----085734 121855Z /75

P R 121821Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8508
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 08841

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, GW, GE
SUBJECT: MORE ON A POSSIBLE SCHMIDT-HONECKER SUMMIT

1. WHEN I CALLED ON STATE MINISTER IN THE CHANCELLERY WISCHNEWSKI ON MAY 11, HE TOLD ME HE WAS ABOUT TO RECOMMEND TO THE CHANCELLOR THAT A "NON-POLITICAL" MINISTER, PERHAPS HOUSING MINISTER HAACK, MAKE A VISIT TO THE GDR TO TEST THE WATERS FOR A POSSIBLE SCHMIDT-HONECKER MEETING. WISCHNEWSKI WAS CONFIDENT SCHMIDT WOULD APPROVE THE SUGGESTION. HE DID NOT SAY WHEN THE VISIT MIGHT TAKE PLACE.

2. WISCHNEWSKI CONFIRMED THAT SCHMIDT WAS, IN PRINCIPLE, PREPARED TO MEET HONECKER. THERE WERE, HOWEVER, NO PRESENT PLANS FOR A MEETING AND SCHMIDT WOULD "UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES" TRAVEL TO THE GDR WITHOUT HONECKER'S TAKING POSITIVE STEPS IN THE HUMANITARIAN FIELD. WISCHNEWSKI SAID A REDUCTION
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PAGE 02 BONN 08841 121853Z

IN THE PENSION AGE, THUS PERMITTING AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF EAST GERMANS PERMITTED TO TRAVEL FREELY TO THE WEST, WOULD CONSTITUTE SUCH A STEP.

3. WISCHNEWSKI SAID THE FRG ALSO ATTACHED GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE REOPENING OF THE EAST BERLIN OFFICE OF DER SPIEGEL. HE DID NOT, HOWEVER, INDICATE THAT

THIS WAS A PRECONDITION TO A SCHMIDT-HONECKER SUMMIT.
STOESSEL

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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